(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSION AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) A Constitution Amendment Bill in this regard introduced by the Government in the Lok Sabha has been passed by that House on May 10, 2000. The Bill on becoming an Act would enable the Government to exclude the backlog of reserved vacancies from the ceiling of 50 per cent reservation on total number vacancies to be filled in a year.

Conduction of Lecture Series on "Ideas that have Worked" in States/UTs

4966. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would take initiatives to organise lecture series on "Ideas that have worked" in States/UTs for the benefit of their officer's and;

(b) if so, the dates by which an action plan for the purpose is expected to be prepared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) The lecture series on "Ideas that have worked" which is being jointly organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India, Civil Services Officers' Institute and the Government of Andhra Pradesh is currently confined only to New Delhi. The Secretaries incharge of Administrative Reforms in the States are also invited to attend the lecture series. The transcripts of the speeches are also sent to the Chief Secretaries of all the States/UTs for the benefit of their officers. Moreover, the States/UTs are competent to organise such series of lectures on their own.

Supply of Piped Gas in Agartala

4967. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: